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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/086,136	02/26/2002	Joel Leleve	1948-4768	4161

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MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
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EXAMINER

RIOS CUEVAS, ROBERTO JOSE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2836

DATE MAILED: 03/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

9m

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/086,136	Applicant(s) LELEVE, JOEL	
	Examiner Roberto J Rios	Art Unit 2836	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02/02</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of Brinster (US patent 3,214,668).

As per claim 1, AAPA (page 2, line 25+) teaches that 12-volt electrical vehicle components can be powered by using a DC/DC converter connected between a higher voltage source and said component but does not specifically disclose the voltage reference for the regulated power supply provided by said converter being a Zener diode approximately equal to 12 volts. However, Brinster teaches a DC/DC voltage converter, wherein a voltage reference for regulated power supply provided by said converter is a Zener diode approximately equal to the component required voltage (Figure 1; col. 1, line 71+).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify AAPA's DC/DC converter with Brinster's regulated converter for the purpose of ensuring a constant voltage drop across a suitable range of currents.

As per claim 2, Brinster teaches a single additional active component

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consisting of a transistor (15) compatible with the currents and the voltages of the power-supply network.

As per claim 3, Brinster teaches the transistor being a npn type (Figure 1).

As per claim 4, Brinster teaches the base of the transistor being linked to the cathode of the Zener diode the anode of which is linked to earth, and the base of the transistor, furthermore, linked to its collector via a resistor, while the emitter of the transistor is linked to the load and while a capacitor for filtering against the entry of induced currents is wired parallel between the emitter and earth. AAPA (Figure 1) teaches a diode being connected between the electrical-energy source and the load for polarity reversal protection and a filtering capacitor in parallel with the load.

As per claim 5, AAPA teaches that the electrical-energy source could be pulsed (page 2, line 33+).

As per claim 6, AAPA teaches the electrical-energy source comprising a chopper (page 3).

As per claim 7, AAPA teaches that the voltage of the electrical-energy source could be 42 volts (page 2, line 33+).

As per claim 8, AAPA teaches the duty cycle of the pulsed source being of the order of 1/9 (page 2, line 33+).

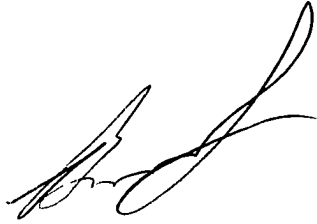
As per claim 9, AAPA teaches the power supply device being implemented in a vehicle-headlight attitude corrector (page 2).

3. Art of general nature relating to voltage regulation has been cited for applicant's review.

Communication with PTO

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Roberto Rios whose telephone number is (571) 272-2056. In the event that Examiner Rios cannot be reached, his supervisor, Brian Sircus may be contacted at (571) 272-2800, ext. 36. The fax number for Before-Final communications and After-Final communications is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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Roberto J. Rios
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